

REGULAR CITY COUNCIL MEETING

March 9, 2021

A. Call to Order – Pledge of Allegiance Mayor Grover called the Regular City Council meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

B. Roll Call – Excused Absences Councilmembers present included Councilmember Overhauser, Councilmember Schmidt, Councilmember Barthels, Councilmember Weizmann, Councilmember Gaard, Councilmember Hilton, and Councilmember Taves. Staff members present included Mr. Schuller, Ms. Niemeier, Mr. Schwartz, Ms. MacDonald, Mr. Hensley, Mr. Ableman, Mr. Jenkins, Mr. Marx, Mr. Lucas, and Ms. Cooper.

C. Minutes of the Regular City Council meeting of February 23, 2021 were approved as distributed.

D. Claims and Vouchers nos. 156521 through 156524 in the amount of \$54,421.28 for 2020, 156461, 156503, 156525 through 156623, and February interdepartmental billing in the amount of \$870,004.54 for 2021, payroll warrants nos. 63634 through 63666 in the amount of \$21,376.76, direct deposits in the amount of \$410,204.66, claims warrants nos. 156462 through 156489 in the amount of \$368,120.43, and transfers to claims clearing fund for distribution of reported benefit adjustments in the amount of \$136,371.89 for a total payroll of \$936,073.74 were approved as read.

E. Claims for Damages None

F. Small Contracts The small contracts were previously approved.

G. Information Items Mr. Schuller presented the AFSCME 270-C labor contract and explained the changes from the last contract. Mr. Ableman provided information in the business park zone and asked the Council for direction.

H. Appointments None

I. Citizen Comments Derek Baziotis, 24 W 1st St, asked about the vacancy rate in the storage units we currently have in Cheney.

J. Action Items

1. 21-034 – Resolution E-900 – Solar Energy Services Contract Mr. Ableman stated that we selected Apollo Solutions for the solar project. The proposal is not to exceed \$19,000. They are also going to assist in writing grants. Councilmember Schmidt moved for approval of Resolution E-900. Councilmember Hilton seconded. Carried unanimously.

2. 21-035 – Resolution E-901 – Light Shop Office Remodel Project Mr. Marx stated that this was approved in the 2021 budget as a discretionary item. It will construct six smaller offices for the Light linemen. The total appropriation is \$104,200. Councilmember Schmidt moved for approval of Resolution E-901. Councilmember Weizmann seconded. Carried unanimously.

3. 21-036 – Resolution E-902 – Finance Department Teller Window Improvement Project Change Order Four Mr. Marx stated that this will fund phase three of the project. The total appropriation increase is \$66,000, bringing the total appropriation for the project to \$188,000. Councilmember Taves moved for approval of Resolution E-902. Councilmember Hilton seconded. Carried unanimously.

4. 21-027 – Ordinance X-82 – Occupancy Ordinance Mr. Ableman explained the ordinance and stated that he will take it to the Public Works Committee. Mr. Schwartz stated that there is case law regarding functional families. Councilmember Overhauser moved for the first reading of Ordinance X-82 in title and summary form only and to defer it to a subsequent meeting. Councilmember Schmidt seconded. Carried unanimously.

5. 21-028 – Ordinance X-83 – Landscaping Ordinance Mr. Ableman explained the ordinance. Councilmember Overhauser moved for the first reading of Ordinance X-83 in title and summary form only and to defer it to a subsequent meeting. Councilmember Schmidt seconded. Carried unanimously.

6. 21-037 – Ordinance Y-3 – 2021 Salary Ordinance Mr. Schuller stated that this update includes the increases in the AFSCME 270-C contract. Councilmember Overhauser moved for the first reading of Ordinance Y-3 in title and summary form only and to defer it to a subsequent meeting. Councilmember Taves seconded. Carried unanimously.

K. Staff Reports Mr. Ableman stated that the yard waste bins will be out on Monday, March 15. Cheney Clean Sweep will be April 24. It will not be the full thing, but some of the services will be available. Mr. Schuller provided COVID-19 and legislative updates. He congratulated the men's and women's basketball players at EWU who received awards after the season.

L. Mayor's Report Mayor Grover thanked Council and staff for serving the City.

M. Council Reports Councilmember Schmidt congratulated the EWU Men's Basketball program. Councilmember Barthels reported on the Historic Preservation Commission and Planning Commission meetings. Councilmember Weizmann provided information on the Cheney Depot board. She stated that Ryan Gaard is now a board member. Councilmember Gaard reported on the Cheney Depot board. Councilmember Hilton congratulated Councilmember Gaard. Councilmember Taves thanked Councilmember Gaard for all he has done with the Cheney Depot.

N. Executive Session None

O. Adjournment Councilmember Gaard moved to adjourn the meeting. Councilmember Schmidt seconded. Carried unanimously. The meeting was adjourned at 7:07 p.m.


City Clerk


Mayor